

HFRA II

“We must update HFRA so federal forest managers can actively manage our forests to reduce catastrophic fire and improve forest health.”

- Congressman Greg Walden



- In the limited areas where federal agencies are authorized to implement it, the strongly bipartisan Healthy Forests Restoration Act (or “HFRA” - passed in 2003 with 286 votes in the House and unanimous support in the Senate) has reduced the incidence and severity of catastrophic wildfire.
- Rampant catastrophic wildfire remains destructive to habitat, water sources and communities in the West.
- Since HFRA passed, **40 million acres have burned in the U.S.**, an area larger than North Dakota.
- Fires in the U.S. release on average **290 million metric tons of carbon dioxide a year**, equivalent to 4 to 6 percent of the nation’s carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel burning.

The Healthy Forests Restoration Amendments Act:

- Introduced on August 1, 2008 with bipartisan support.
- The bill, known as “HFRA II,” would provide the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management clear authority to use the proven-to-work tools in HFRA to address areas of hishest risk of catastrophic fire:

Condition Class II: Federal land where the fire regime and vegetation has been altered to the point that there is a moderate risk of changes to the size, frequency, intensity or severity of fires.

Condition Class III: Federal land where the fire regime and vegetation has been significantly altered to the point that there is a high risk of changes to the size, frequency, intensity or severity of fires.

- All current environmental laws, regulations and public appeal opportunities would still apply, and thorough site analyses already prescribed in the strongly bipartisan HFRA would still need to be performed.

NATIONAL FOREST	CONDITION CLASS ACRES		TOTAL TREATED ACRES		
	Condition II	Condition III	2005	2006	2007
Nationwide	10,056,000	8,448,000	289,000	362,000	417,000
Deschutes	287,136	1,055,930	19,722	17,232	22,252
Rogue-Siskiyou	497,149	695,398	5,037	4,553	4,739
Umatilla	521,589	528,084	8,294	13,295	13,792
Wallowa-Whitman	867,476	771,709	17,405	17,920	17,848
Malheur	624,952	738,457	16,380	17,210	16,733
Ochoco	517,191	153,950	11,493	17,083	17,159
Fremont-Winema	228,607	1,737,738	25,256	14,314	12,563
Mt. Hood	821,003	87,758	2,418	2,032	1,327

Source: United States Forest Service